

**REMARKS**

Claims 13-17 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 13-17 are amended.

The Office Action rejects claims 13-17 under 35 USC 102(e) over Schleiss (USP 6,633,782). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

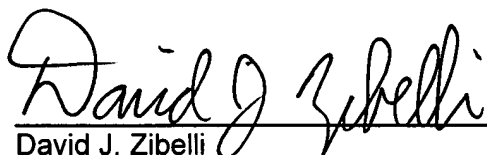
The remote maintenance device recited in the present claims remotely provides maintenance services including compilation and examination of the routine inspection data and investigation on an abnormal event. The remote maintenance device in the claimed invention is connected to the maintenance tools through a communication network and causes the remote-controlled transmission of data to the maintenance tool. As explained below, these features are not disclosed in Schleiss.

Schleiss discloses a technique that reports abnormality in a system, which is a diagnosis by an expert system, and a solution therefor. Schleiss however does not disclose such a remote maintenance device and does not remotely revise the function set up of the process controller 12. Since Schleiss is silent about the remote revision of the function set up of the process controller 12, there is consequently no description of causing the remote-controlled transmission of data to the maintenance tool. Therefore, Schleiss does not anticipate any claims of the present application. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

For the above reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance are solicited.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: December 21, 2005

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